

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A shifting device for transmitting shift commands to a motor vehicle transmission, the shifting device comprising:

a housing support structure;

a selector lever for transmitting shift commands to the motor vehicle transmission, said

5 selector lever having an upper portion;

a hand knob forming a gripping surface for engagement by a hand of a driver of the motor vehicle;

a connection cable comprising one or more lines for transmitting electrical and/or optical signals;

10 a switch; and

an adapter mounted on said upper portion of said selector lever, said adapter having said switch integrated therewith, said adapter having an outer surface, said outer surface defining a recess, wherein at least a portion of said one or more lines extends within said recess, said adapter defining a connection between said selector lever and said hand knob, the
15 shifting device being provided for installation in a motor vehicle, wherein a shifting gate is pushed over said selector lever, said adapter being located at a position above the shift gate,
said hand knob being connected to said upper portion of said selector lever via said adapter.

2. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said

switch integrated in said adapter includes means for transmitting electrical and/or optical signals.

3. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has a switch interface for a connection cable.

4. (Currently Amended) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a line for transmitting electrical and/or optical signals wherein said adapter has an exterior surface defining at least one said recess, said line being disposed in said recess at least said portion of said one or more lines being located adjacent to said exterior surface of said adapter, said hand knob surrounding said adapter, said adapter having a top outer surface, said top outer surface defining a switch recess, said switch being located in said switch recess, said adapter and said hand knob being located at a spaced location from said shift gate, said shift gate being located at a position below said hand knob.

5. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has a switch display part.

6. (Currently Amended) A shifting device in accordance with claim [[1]] 4, further comprising a switch display part, said switch display part being arranged opposite said switch.

7. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has at least one guide element for positioning said hand knob.

8. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has a boring, into which said selector lever can be at least partially inserted.

9. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter is fastened to said selector lever via a screw connection.

10. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter is fastened to said selector lever via a clip connection.

11. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has a plastic molding, which is injection-molded on the selector lever via an injection molding process.

12. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adapter has an actuator button part connected to said switch.

13. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 12, wherein said hand knob has an opening for access to said actuator button part.

14. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 13, wherein said actuator button part also comprises a switch display part.

15. (Currently Amended) A shifting device for transmitting shift commands to a motor vehicle transmission, the shifting device comprising:

a support structure;

a selector lever comprising an upper selector lever portion and a lower selector lever portion, said lower selector lever portion being connected to said support structure, said selector lever for transmitting shift commands to the motor vehicle transmission;

a connection cable;

an adapter mounted to said upper selector lever portion of said selector lever, said adapter having an integrated switch, said integrated switch including a switch interface for said connection cable and a means for transmitting electrical and/or optical signals, said adapter having an adapter outer side surface, said adapter outer side surface defining a recess, said connection cable being located within said recess, wherein said connection cable is located adjacent to said outer surface of said adapter;

a hand knob forming a gripping surface for engagement by a hand of a driver of the motor vehicle driver, said adapter defining a connection between said upper selector lever portion of said selector lever and said hand knob, said adapter being connected to said hand knob, the shifting device being provided for installation in a motor vehicle, wherein the diameter of the selector lever and the adapter is smaller than a shift gap defined by side edges

of a shift gate whereby the shift gate is passed over said selector lever and said adapter,
20 wherein said adapter is located a position above the shift gate.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance with claim 15, wherein said connection cable has a line, said line transmitting said electrical and/or optical signals from said transmitting means to said support structure.

18. (Previously Presented) A shifting device in accordance claim 15, wherein said adapter has at least one guide element for positioning said hand knob.

19. (Currently Amended) A shifting device in accordance with claim 15, wherein said adapter has a part with at least one of an actuator button part and a switch display part connected to said switch, said adapter having a top outer surface, said top outer surface defining an integrated switch recess, said integrated switch being arranged in said integrated switch recess, said hand knob surrounding said adapter.
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20. (Currently Amended) A shifting device in accordance with claim 19, wherein said hand knob has an opening for access to said at least one of an actuator button part and a switch display part connected to said switch, said switch display part being disposed opposite said

integrated switch.

21. (Currently Amended) A shifting device for transmitting shift commands to a motor vehicle transmission, the shifting device comprising:

a support structure;

a selector lever having an upper end and a lower end, said lower end being connected
5 to said support structure, said selector lever for transmitting shift commands to the motor vehicle transmission;

a connection cable having one or more lines;

an adapter mounted to said upper end of said selector lever, said adapter having a top
10 outer surface, said top outer surface defining an integrated switch recess, said adapter having an integrated switch arranged in said integrated switch recess, said integrated switch including a switch interface, said adapter having an adapter outer side surface, said adapter outer side surface defining a recess, said one or more lines being located within said recess, said one or more lines being located adjacent to said adapter outer side surface, said one or more lines being connected to said switch interface;

15 a hand knob forming a gripping surface for engagement by a hand of a driver of the motor vehicle driver, said hand knob surrounding said adapter, said adapter defining a connection between said upper end of said selector lever and said hand knob, whereby said hand knob is connected to said upper end of said selector lever via said adapter, the shifting device being provided for installation in a motor vehicle, wherein the diameter of the selector

20 lever and the adapter is smaller than a shift gap defined by side edges of a shift gate whereby the shift gate is passed over said selector lever and said adapter, said hand knob being arranged on said adapter, said shift gate being located at a position below said adapter.